15. Al-Qahhar (The Subduer)

"When Allah's power subdues a heart, it finds peace in submission.
The greatest victory is not to conquer others but to be conquered by the Truth."

- Abdul Qadir al-Jilani (1077-1166 CE)
Source: "Futuh al-Ghayb"
(Revelations of the Unseen)

One who is materialistically inclined should recite this Attribute of Allah excessively. Allah's love will become ingrained in his heart,
Insha Allah - Al Hisnul Hasin

BI'ISMIHI TA'AALA

Asmaa ul Husna

—

The Most Beautiful Names of Allah ﷻ

Ml.Moosa Kajee

AL-QAHHAAR ﷻ (THE BEING WHO CONROLS EVERYTHING/ SUBJUGATORﷻ)

In the Arabic language, the meaning of 'qahhaar' is the one who overpowers. Thus the one who has dominance over everything is called Al-Qahhaar ﷻ i.e. everything is subservient to Him and He dominates everything.

هو الذى لا موجود الا هو مسخر تحت قهره و قدرته، عاجز في قبضته

Al-Qahhaar ﷻ is that Being under whose control and power all things existent are subservient to, and are completely without power and strength, due to being under His control. Whatever Al-Qahhaar ﷻ wants from them, He makes them do.

This is manifested in different ways in the creation:

a.) Existence and non-existence of every creation is under His control.

b.) The celestial bodies are extremely huge. Allaah ﷻ keeps them in their place and does not allow them to move from their entres. Allaah ﷻ states, "Allaah ﷻ (without any outward pillars) grasps the heavens and the earth lest they move away from their places, and if they were to move away from their places, there is not one that could grasp them after Him." (Faatir)

c.) Physical bodies are generally composed of sand, water, air and fire. These four elements naturally do not like to be blended together. It is only the perfect power of Allaah ﷻ which keeps them blended so that they do not separate.

d.) The soul is a luminous delicate creation, which is completely free of matter. Allaah ﷻ, through His perfect power has joined the soul with

the physical body which is dark and dense, the complete opposite; and He does not allow them to separate.
e.) Great and powerful kings have passed in history, but Allaah ﷻ's quality of subjugation made them completely helpless by sicknesses and death. In spite of great efforts to save themselves, they were forced to affirm the might and glory of Allaah ﷻ.

f.) Man's intellect is always attempting to investigate all matters, however it is completely helpless when trying to understand the reality of Allaah's Being. This also establishes the great quality of His subjugation and invincibility.

g.) We see daily that everything in the world is under His control. So many times, man desires to do something, but he cannot do anything contrary to the intention of Allaah ﷻ. Ali ؓ said, "I have recognized my Creator by the nullifying of my intentions.

When Amr ibn Aas ؓ conquered Egypt, then the inhabitants of Egypt came to him at the beginning of one of their months called "Bunah" and said, "Amir Saheb! We carry out a certain ritual at the Nile River. By not doing so, the river will not flow."
Amr ؓ asked, "What is this ritual?"

They answered, "When twelve nights of the month pass, then we seek a virgin girl who is the solo child of her parents. We satisfy her parents, dress her up in the finest of clothing and jewellery, and throw her in this Nile River."

Amr ؓ said, "This action cannot occur in Islam because Islam brings to an end to all past incorrect practices." The inhabitants of Egypt waited for three months – "Bunah, Abeeb and Masri". Gradually, the water of the Nile River came to a standstill. Seeing this, these people intended to

leave Egypt and reside elsewhere. When Amr ﷺ saw this, he wrote a letter to Umar bin Khattab ﷺ. Umar ﷺ replied to him, “You have acted correctly. Islam brings an end to all former incorrect customs. I am sending a letter to you. When you receive my letter, throw it into the river.” When the letter reached Amr ﷺ, he opened it. It contained the following contents:

فِانْ كُنتَ تَجْرِىْ مِنْ قِبَلِك فَلَا تَجْرِ وَ اِنْ كان الواحد القهار يُجْرِيكَ فَنَسْأَلُ اللهَ الواحد القهارَ اَنْ يُجْرِيَكَ

From the slave of Allaah, Amirul Mu’mineen Umar ﷺ to the River Nile in Egypt. If you flow by your own will, then do not flow. If Allaah ﷻ who is One, and Overpowering make you flow, then we ask that Allaah ﷻ who is One and Overpowering that He causes you to flow.

Amr ﷺ threw this paper into the Nile River one day before their day of celebration. On the other side, the people of Egypt had already completed preparations to migrate, since all their farming and livelihood was solely dependent on the water of the Nile River. On the morning of their celebration, the people saw that the water in the Nile River was flowing sixteen hand-spans high. In this way, Allaah ﷻ ended this evil custom of the people of Egypt. (From that day till today, the Nile River has continued to flow). (Al-Bidaayah Wan-Nihaayah)

From here we learn that whoever has conviction in One Allaah, who has no partner, in His ﷻ being invincible and overpowering, and he invites all the people of the world towards Him ﷻ, then Allaah ﷻ makes the creation such as the river subservient to him.